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Prayer  
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Invite all to Worship God  
Grow in faith  
Follow Jesus by Serving Others

Sunday, September 15 2024, 10:00 a.m.

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Centering Words:** As we come together in worship, let us be mindful of the words we speak, knowing that our tongues have the power to build up or tear down. May our words today reflect the love and grace of Christ, creating a welcoming space for all.

## Disciples Gather to Worship God

### ☛ Welcome (hopeaustin.org/connect)

Rev. Dr. Josh Robinson

Welcome to Hope Presbyterian Church where we:

**Invite All to Worship God, Grow In Faith, and Follow Jesus by Serving Others!**

### ♫ Prelude

Lobt Gott, ihr Christen, allzugleich  
Dr. Kathy Winston, organ

arr. Dietrich Buxtelude

### ☛ Call to Worship

Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be pleasing to God.

**We come to speak words of welcome and kindness.**

Let us encourage one another with words that build up and strengthen.

**In this community, we use our voices to share God's love.**

Together, let us worship the God who calls us to speak truth in love.

**We gather to praise with words of joy and peace.**

Siblings in the family of Christ, let us worship God!

### ♫ Hymn 395 (GTG)

*Blessed Jesus, at Your Word*

LIEBSTER JESU

### ☛ Response: Praise the Lord! The Lord's name be praised!

### ☛ Prayer of Confession

Sharon Shaw, Stephen Leader

Merciful God, we admit that our words have not always honored You. We have gossiped, criticized, and torn others down. In our haste, we have spoken without thought or care. In your mercy, forgive us.

*Silent Prayers of Personal Confession*

In your mercy, forgive us. Guide us to use our words to build up and encourage. Transform our speech to be a source of blessing, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### ☛ Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Friends, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel! **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

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- ↑ Indicates when we are to rise, as we are able.    **Bold text** is read or sung by the congregation.
  - 📖 Indicates when Scripture is read.                    ♪ Indicates when music is sung or heard.
  - ☛ Indicates when someone is speaking.             GTG—*Glory to God* purple hymnal; STF—*Sing the Faith* blue hymnal
-

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

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↑ **Sharing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

## Disciples Listen to the Word of God

♪ **Hymn**

*If We Just Talk of Thoughts and Prayers*

O WALY WALY

If we just talk of thoughts and prayers, and don't live out a faith that dares,  
And don't take on the ways of death, our thoughts and prayers are fleeting breath.  
If we just dream of what could be, and do not build community,  
And do not seek to change our ways, our dreams of change are false displays.  
If we just sing of doing good, and don't walk through our neighborhood  
To learn its hope, to ease its pain, our talk of good is simply vain.  
God, may our prayers and dreams and songs lead to a faith that takes on wrongs —  
That works for peace and justice, too. Then will our prayers bring joy to you.

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✙ **Prayer for Illumination**

📖 **First Reading**

Mark 8:27-38 (NRSV)

Bible p. 820

👦 **Children's Sermon**

Rev. Dr. Krystal Leedy

*Following the Children's Sermon, children ages 3-7 are invited to Little Church in the Fellowship Building. This worship for children concludes at 11:15 on non-communion Sundays. On Communion Sunday, children will return to their families during worship.*

The Bible, the Bible is the Word of God,  
The Bible, the Bible is the Word of God,  
And the Word of God will help us grow, grow, grow,  
The Word of God will help us grow.

📖 **Second Reading**

James 3: 1-12 (NRSV)

Bible p. 981

👤 **Sermon**

*You Belong Here: Words That Welcome*

Rev. Dr. Josh Robinson

### Worship+2: GROW

Reflect on the impact your words have on those around you. Are your words building up or tearing down? This week, make a conscious effort to speak words of encouragement and affirmation to those in your life, especially to someone who may need it most. Let your words be a reflection of God's love, creating a space where others feel welcomed and valued.

# Disciples Respond to the Call of God

## ✚ Affirmation of Faith

*Apostles' Creed (ecumenical)*

Rev. Dr. John Leedy

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*\* "catholic" is Latin for "universal," implying the Christian unity that exists beyond all denominations.*

## ✚ Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer (GTG) Page 35

Hear our prayers O God in the name of Jesus Christ, who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in eternal glory, and taught us to pray together saying:

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## ↑ ♪ Response 466 (GTG)

*Come Fill Our Hearts*

Jacques Berthier

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord are holy.  
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

## Prayer @ Home

**Disability Inclusion Sunday:** Lord, help us embrace and include all Your children, celebrating the unique gifts each person brings.

## 🕊️ Call to Discipleship

CONNECT: [hopeaustin.org/CONNECT](http://hopeaustin.org/CONNECT)

GIVE: [hopeaustin.org/DONATE](http://hopeaustin.org/DONATE) or text "HOPEPC" to 73256

## ♪ Offertory Anthem

*The Meditations of My Heart*

Elaine Hagenberg

Adult Choir

*May the words of my mouth*

*And the meditations of my heart*

*Be acceptable in thy sight,*

*O Lord, my Rock, O Lord my strength,*

*O Lord, my God and Redeemer.*

*Based on Psalm 19:14 | Elaine Hagenberg © 2017 Beckenhorst Press, Inc. All rights reserved.*

## ↑ ♪ Doxology 609 (GTG)

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts;  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts.  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit; Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## ✚ 🕊️ Prayer of Dedication

# Congregational Meeting

Opening Prayer

Rev. Dr. Josh Robinson, Moderator

Establish Quorum

Karen McElhinney, Clerk

Report from Nominating Committee

Elder Arthur Yee, Chair

Motion: to elect Michelle Cooper as Elder, Class of 2026

## Disciples Depart to Serve God

↑ 🎵 Hymn 722 (GTG)

*Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak* (vss. 1,3,5)

PERRY

↑ 🗣️ Charge & Benediction

As we go out into the world, may we carry with us the message that all belong in God's love.  
Let us be agents of welcome and grace, showing the world what Christian community looks like.

↑ 🎵 Response

*Shalom to You*

Young-Eslinger

Shalom to you now, Shalom, my friends.  
May God's full mercies bless you, my friends  
In all your living and through your loving,  
Christ be your Shalom, Christ be your Shalom.

🎵 Postlude

*Dearest Jesus, at Your Word*

arr. Paul Kickstat